

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-49. (Cancelled)

50. (New) A device for contrast enhancement for display devices, comprising

a focusing optical device including a lens and/or a mirror arrangement,

a diaphragm with at least one aperture, and

a light disposal element for deflecting and/or absorbing light, wherein the optical device is arranged such that it focuses incident light and directs it through the at least one aperture to the light disposal element for deflecting and/or absorbing extra light.

51. (New) A device for contrast enhancement for display devices, comprising

a light scattering device including a divergent lens and/or a mirror arrangement, and

a light disposal element for deflecting and/or absorbing light, wherein the light scattering device directs incident light to the light disposal element for deflecting and/or absorbing light.

52. (New) The device according to claim 50, wherein the light disposal element comprises an absorbing cavity arranged, relative to the incident light, behind the diaphragm.

53. (New) The device according to claim 52, wherein the device comprises several diaphragms arranged adjacent to each other directing light to plural apertures.

54. (New) The device according to claim 53, wherein the diaphragms and/or the apertures have different sizes.

55. (New) The device according to claim 54, wherein the size of the aperture is adjustable.

56. (New) The device of claim 53, wherein the focusing optical devices correspond in number to said several diaphragms and are arranged in a regular pattern.

57. (New) The device according to claim 50, wherein each focusing optical device is an elongate lens and wherein each diaphragm is a slit diaphragm.

58. (New) The device according to claim 50, wherein the gm (2) is adjustable focusing optical device is separated from the diaphragm by an adjustable distance.

59. (New) The device according to claim 50, further comprising at least one light source arranged between the focusing optical device and the diaphragm.

60. (New) The device according to claim 59, wherein a lens is used for focusing the emitted light from the light source, the light source supplying illumination of a display element viewable by a viewer.

61. (New) The device according to claim 60, wherein at least one light source is arranged beside the lens.

62. (New) The device according to claim 58, wherein said light source is adjacent said diaphragm.

63. (New) The device according to claim 62, wherein said light source passively reflects light.

64. (New) The device according to claim 50, wherein the diaphragm is a liquid crystal element.

65. (New) The device according to claim 62, wherein the light source is an area or sheet-like and has an opening in the size of the diaphragm aperture or larger.

66. (New) The device according to claim 50, wherein the light disposal element deflects or absorbs extraneous light, the angle of incidence of the extraneous light being determined with the aid of sensors to facilitate adjustment of the position of the diaphragm, the size of the aperture and/or their position.

67. (New) A method for contrast enhancement for display devices intended for use in incident light comprising the steps of:

focusing and/or scattering the incident light by a lens and/or mirror arrangement, and

creating a dark background by absorbing and/or deflecting the incident light.

68. (New) The method according to claim 67 further comprising emitting from proximity to the dark background at least one active and/or passive light source as part of a desired display image.

69. (New) The method according to claim 68, further comprising directing the incident light through a diaphragm.